

Sex in space

Classified documents smuggled out of NASA show that sex experiments were conducted on recent space shuttle flights. Although it had been rumored for some time, in the past suspicion was focused only on Soviet Saliut missions.

by Marc Sokolowski

A first report, "Experiment 8 Postflight summary, NASA publication 14-307-1792", was found at the Ohio State University by Arlon Hunt on March 15th, 1990. It looks like any other long, specialized paper, only accessible to some high-tech specialists. Yet the contents become very interesting for any down-to-earth human after just a few lines.

The document describes a set of technical experiments that were held during one or more flights. Which ones? The label are erased, probably to protect the names of the married crew members (no couple has yet flown on a shuttle mission). But evidence points to the three defense (and therefore classified) flights following the Challenger explosion.

The purpose of the research was to prepare NASA for the proper handling of couples in long-term space-based research once the U.S. space station is in place. The conclusion — satisfactory sexual relations are possible in a zero-G environment.

belts were that "it was difficult to obtain the necessary thrusting motion." A solution was found which involved the woman doing most of the movements.

The inflatable tunnel, although interesting, proved to be quite unusable in weightlessness due to handling requirements. For the position experiments, four different configurations were tested, and two of them proved to be functional. Overall, some experience was required. This point was emphasized in the recommendations, which said couples involved in a space mission should be provided with elastic belts and some information in a training program.

Another document, "NASA Contractor Report 3490A", deals with female/male relations in zero-G with a more futuristic solution, involving eye-hand coordination by neural networks and robot arms. The robot arms are used to hold the bodies together by an electrically excited velcro-like coupling (VELEE-2, reference NASW-5641), to counteract the lack of

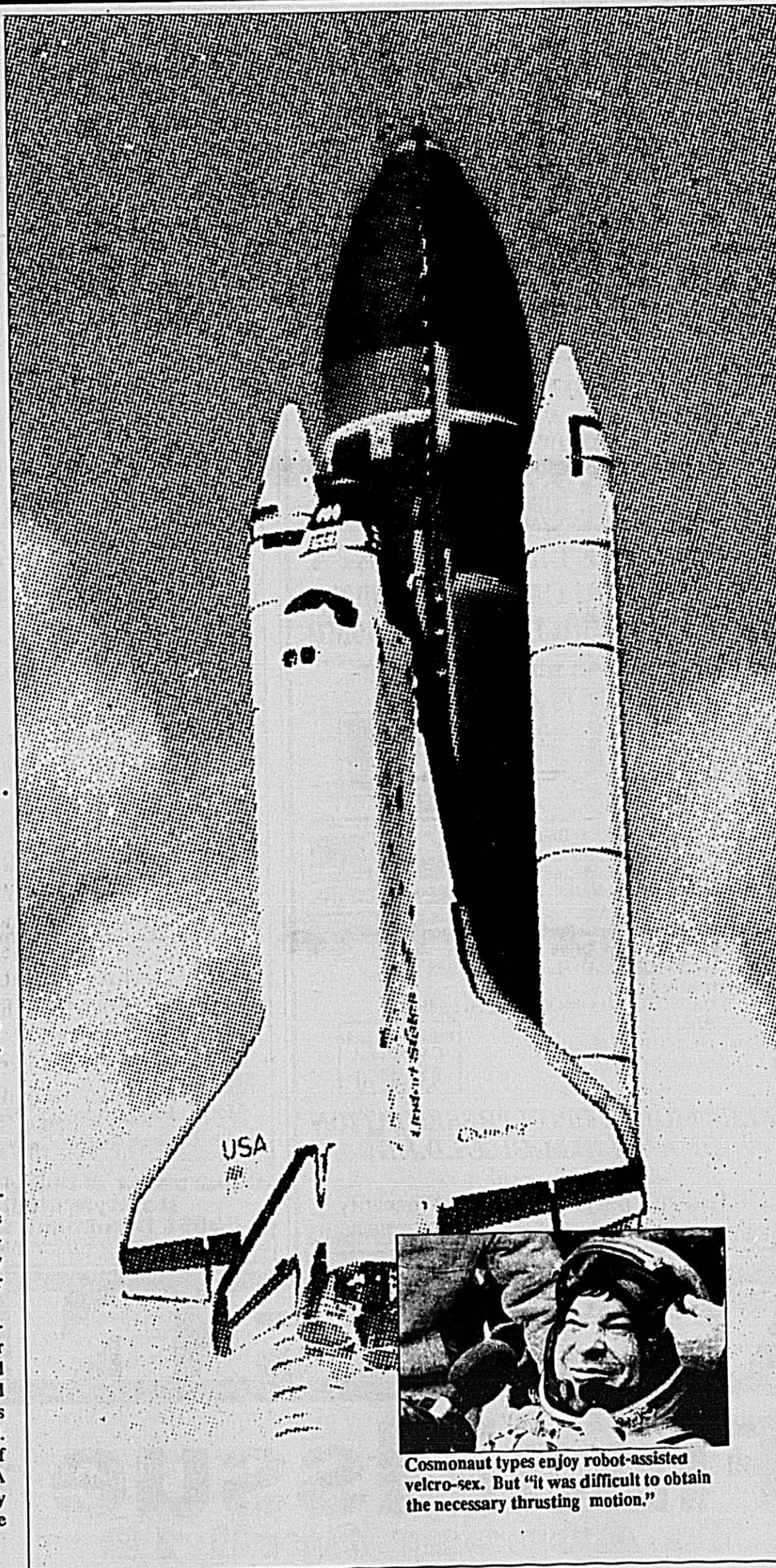
Experiments show that satisfactory sexual relations are possible in a zero-gravity environment

The partners had the exclusive use of the lower deck of the shuttle for ten intervals of one hour each (with 4 hour rest periods), separated from the rest of the crew by a pneumatic sound deadening barrier fixed on the entry (described in NASA publication 12-571-3570).

Ten ways of compensating for the lack of gravity were tested. Six of them involved mechanical devices — elastic belts attached alternatively to the waists and thighs and an inflatable tunnel. Four simply experimented with positions adapted to weightlessness. The major problems with the elastic

gravity. The effectiveness of the device was proved by twelve Earth-based experiments in University XXXXXXXX (some eight letter word).

It is indicated that the experimenters wrote notes relating their impressions and observations, and all the experiments were videotaped and analysed by a team of experts in their raw form just after the flight. For obvious reasons, the release of a training film (for internal NASA use) will need heavy editing. Any fully public release is of course precluded.



Cosmonaut types enjoy robot-assisted velcro-sex. But "it was difficult to obtain the necessary thrusting motion."

letters

Tuition fee talk

To the Daily:

I would like to thank Greg Alton for his reply to my letter about the tuition fee hike. However there are several points which I feel need clarification.

Most important of all is the fact that there were two very serious misprints made when my letter was reproduced for printing. My letter

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had stated that university education is in fact like any service that one can buy: you get what you pay for, and that there can be a happy medium between Ivy-League level tuition fees and Québec-level tuition fees. These misprints, which I am sure were inadvertent on the part of the Daily's staff completely altered the fundamental point of my letter and disrupted its coherence. I would ask Mr. Alton to reread my letter with this fact in mind.

Popular opinion seems to indicate that the intention of this tuition fee increase is that it will allow the Québec government to slowly but surely reduce its own funding of universities. I will readily admit that I do not know whether this is in fact the case, but it seems to me to be an excessively pessimistic position to take. While there might be some evidence to support this opinion, given the government's previous record, I think that this should not be considered a foregone conclusion.

It is indeed extremely unfortunate that neither the federal nor the provincial governments of this country recognize the fact that contributing substantially to the education of its population is the surest investment for a secure and prosperous future. In Europe, post-secondary education is virtually free, and the results are very evident: West Germany has built itself from a heap of rubble 45 years ago into the strongest economic power in western Europe today. Japan is another example. Their success can be largely attributed to the accessibility of higher education. So, I do recognize the need for accessible post-secondary education, but the sad reality is that in Canada a university education can only be available to those who pay for it until the people elect a government which believes otherwise.

Good faculty, good research facilities, and good extra-curricular facilities are not cheap. Since the government is unwilling to, it is the responsibility of those who make use of these facilities to pay for them. If the aim of the proposed strike was to bring light to the need for accessible education, then it was a too superficial and a too easily misinterpreted way of doing

so.

On a different note, I find it rather disturbing that my letter was treated with such hostility at the Daily: I don't appreciate being told to "Take a walk down the 401" merely because my opinions do not meet with those of the editors. I suppose I should thank them for even printing my letter.

Moni Islam
U1 Engineering

Krieger responds

To the Daily:

I write in response to Prof. Toussaint's letter of March 21 in which he expressed shock at my comments on the Alpha Delta Phi apology letter.

Your "disappointment" should be directed at the Daily's poor journalism and not my commentary. I am in perfect agreement with you that there should be more dialog between men and women on feminist issues. Incorrectly, my comment was reported as a response to an alleged request that we, "meet with the fraternity to discuss women's issues." This was neither the question asked of me, nor an actual suggestion of Alpha Delta Phi. Instead, I was a responding to

the fraternities pledge that: "From this point forward we shall consult women's groups before posting advertising."

To establish a censor board is very different than to engage in dialogue. The Coalition Against Sexual Assault always welcomes discussion but we do not wish to take a policing role. Instead, we hope that all individuals will take personal responsibility for portraying women in a positive light.

As a point of information, Coalition and Alpha Delta Phi representatives did meet and discuss the issue. We put forth the alternative that they have a workshop with our Sexual Assault Speakers Bureau. As yet, I have not heard their response.

Moreover, I would like to point out that a significant number of the members of our "women's group" are male. Much of our advertising and events during the Awareness Week were directly designed to engage men in the issues. Dialogue across gender lines is taking place. Our greater problem though, is the lack of communication amongst men. Should it be women's responsibility to foster this link also?

You state that you want to, "put a stop to this war that is developing between women and men." First of all, this "war" has been going on for centuries and secondly, the weapons (political, economic, sexual), are not in women's hands for the most part; we are the victims of your violence. I would suggest that your indignation be saved for a more worthy recipient next time.

Shelley Krieger
Coalition Against Sexual Assault

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When eggheads meet politics

It's a cultish organization with a cryptic name ("The Thousand"), insanely specific entrance requirements and a membership that has infiltrated just about every Who's Who list in the land. "History has remembered the geniuses of past civilizations," claims an imperious pamphlet by the group, "and ignored the masses."

The John Birch Society? The Fascist Party of America? Not quite, but close. It's one of the most prestigious high-IQ societies in the world, known officially as the International Society for Philosophical Enquiry, or ISPE.

by Alex Roslin

At 30, founder Christopher Harding was frustrated with a high-IQ scene dominated by Mensa, a group ISPE members dismiss as a "social club." Since 1974, the Australian has laboured to build "The Thousand" up to its current 500 members. The group's sole entrance requirement is two IQ scores in the top 1/1000th percentile of the population — that's about 150. There's a minor glitch though — only "reputable" persons need apply, according to the information package each prospective candidate receives. It's all in the name of building civilization...

"Studies by Galton, Therman and

others," the infopack maintains, "have indicated that only a very small fraction of the top one percent of the population provides almost all of the lasting accomplishments or enduring influences of civilization."

Leafing through the group's other literature, like ISPE's monthly *Telicom* magazine, a reader quickly notices a certain lack of coyness when it comes to the intellectual superiority of its members. "We seek knowledge," says an ISPE pamphlet, "in order to discover something new and beneficial to the perpetuation and advancement of our civilization."

In the group's annual membership roster, which ISPEers can consult for a brief run-down on their fellow members, one Martin Zisser notes he joined the group because "being a member of ISPE allows me the privilege to have access to our world's Greatest Minds." (Watch your infinitives Martin).

Never far away is the appeal to Darwinian fitness theory and Galton's eugenics — Zisser adds in his roster entry that he has "a special mental ability" in "Eugenics." ISPEers seem to have a special liking for this infamous vision of society, based on the "scientific" coupling of superior individuals whose super-offspring would ensure the progress of civilization.

One Ben Lemlich, a retired U.S. army officer, is more forward. Among ISPEers there is "less likelihood to have to suffer fools — which I do rather badly," says his roster entry.

"I want to communicate with members," French ISPE member Daniel writes somewhat clumsily, "in order that we form together a hearth of intelligence, light and spirituality which will be radiant over the world."

How high can you go?

When people think of high-IQ societies, Mensa is usually what comes to mind. With 3000 Canadians, Mensa has 80 000 international members, all of whom scored in the top two percentile of the population, or about 130 IQ.

"Most people associate Mensa with eggheads and nuclear engineers," concedes Québec leader Sylvie Ouellette. "In a way it is elitist. But it's really just for meeting people. That's why most people join."

But some find Mensa directionless and not really elite enough. In a recent issue of *Telicom*, one ISPE member dismissed Mensa as "the family car of smarts." Others prefer ISPE's grand civilization-building project — and higher IQ standards.

The entire structure of ISPE, a veritable Winnebago of smarts, thrives on hierarchy. Not only is getting in based on exacting IQ scores, but the group is organized by rank on the basis of accredited intellectual achievements — new members are called 'associates'; after three achievements, ISPEers become 'voting members'; and so on, until the sixth rank of 'philosopher'.

Acceptable achievements include corresponding with other ISPEers, being published in *Telicom*, serving as an elected officer in the organization, or finding a new member for the group.

What exactly does ISPE have in mind for civilization, the *Daily* asked Harding (a 'philosopher') in a letter?

By way of response, Harding sent us a computer print-out of his three-page-long C.V., with a brief note scribbled at the end apologizing for being "so pushed" for time. The

C.V. was suitably impressive for a founder of The Thousand — Harding's resumé includes a 1989 listing in something called the Book of Winners, seven Guinness Book of World Records listings for high IQ scores, and a brief biographical note: "Both parents were from upper class families, many of whose members achieved either national or international fame during their own lifetimes... His Mother a descendant of an Aristocratic line (Count Noel)." He is listed in 14 Who's Who books, Harding adds, including the 1986 edition of Men of Achievement.

Indeed, for ISPE members, a distinguished C.V. seems to be a horribly important part of just being alive. An entire section in each issue of *Telicom* is set aside for members' autobiographies, which members make a point of using to list professional accomplishments, affiliations or Who's Who status.

"There are some problems that arise when those of high intellect congregate," complained a *Telicom* article last October. "Some will never be happy until they manage to prove — by some testing method or other — that they are 'Number One,' in the group, the world, or perhaps even in the Universe!"

"This tendency reached the ultimate inanity with the tongue-in-cheek proposal of George Koch, who proposed the 'George Society'. This, a 1:4 000 000 000 organization requiring members to pass a single-question test: 'Are you George Koch?'"

According to Kingston teacher Donald Seitz, one of 20 Canadian ISPEers, "It's just a lot of foolishness." Seitz, a former member of Mensa, says he isn't even sure why he joined. "I guess it was curiosity."

Are high-IQ societies elitist?

Seitz laughs. "They're much like the guy who look at his navel too long. It's kind of a conundrum, but I don't take them very seriously."

Galton über alles

IQ is a dubious measure of anything important, much less intelligence, Seitz says. He claims IQ is really just a test for trivial knowledge. "I think many of them (ISPE members) must be librarians."

He notes that as early as the 1920s, studies of IQ found that children of

both high-IQ and low-IQ parents tend to have IQs closer to the average than their parents. "If you eliminated everybody scoring in the bottom 90th percentile, after a few generations you'd get the normal Bell-curve distribution anyway," he says, dismissing the eugenics-informed social vision.

Seitz says he hasn't looked at an issue of *Telicom* in ages, calling it "pretty boring." Little of the magazine is filled with insights that can be called philosophical enquiry. Instead, it packs bizarre reflections remarkable for their tiring pomposity.

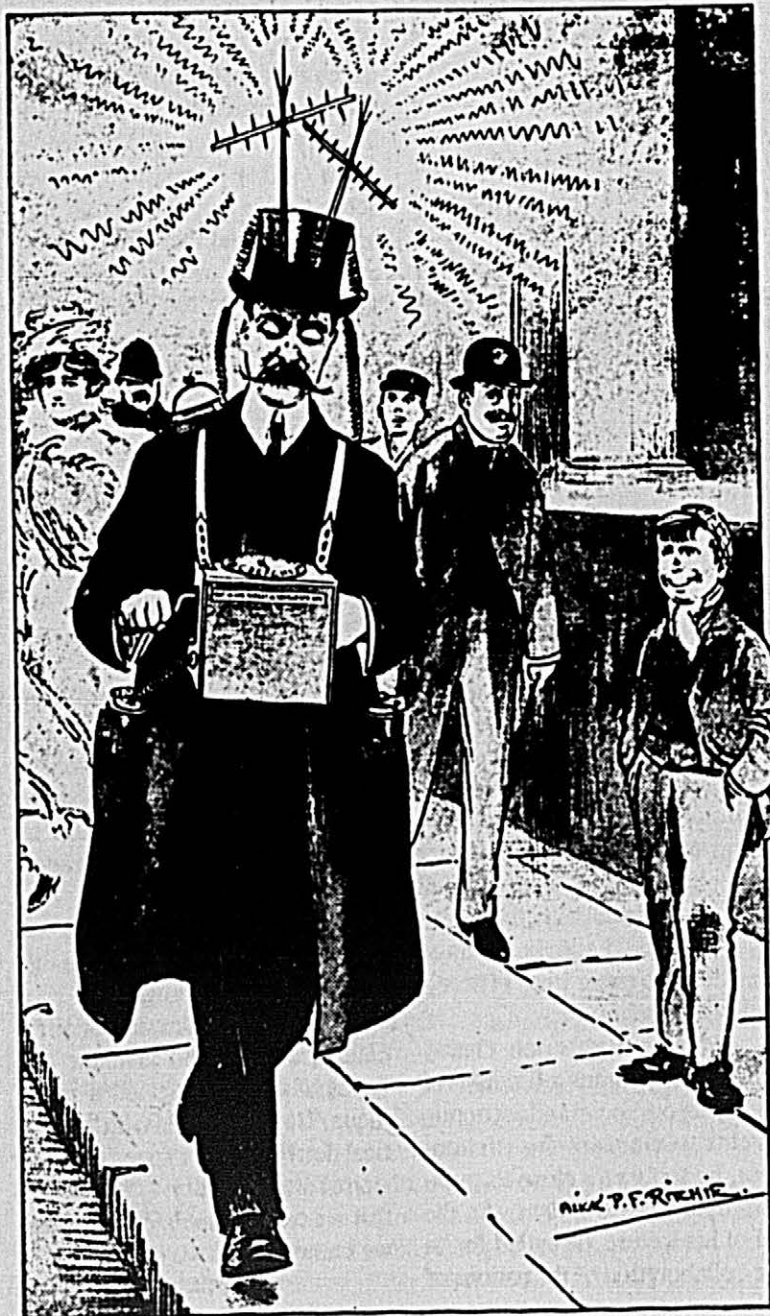
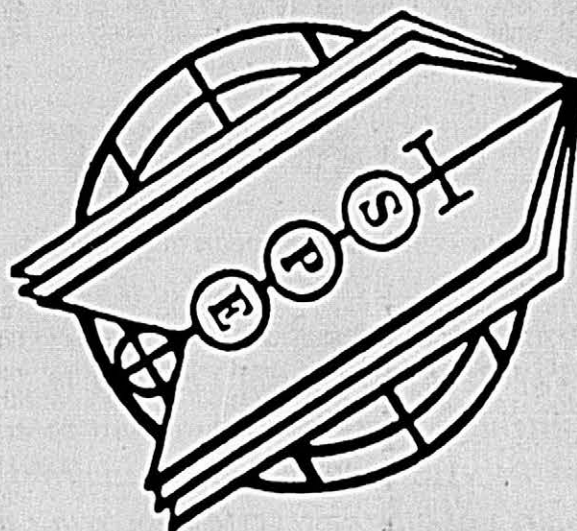
A debate in recent *Telicom* issues about South Africa is typical of the magazine's peculiar social vision. Three articles on the topic appeared last fall, defending that country from "negative publicity" in the Western media. "South Africa's consumer products rank with the best," Ralph Slovenko wrote in September. Meanwhile, the other countries in Africa "are fortunate if they can manage subsistence, much less have anything to export," said Slovenko, a professor at Wayne State Law School.

"I am reminded of an analogy," he said, referring to South Africa's bad press. "A photographer sees an attractive woman — beautiful face, lips, bust, legs — and chooses to take a picture of her asshole."

Into the controversy jumped ISPE official historian R. O. Whitaker, in the following issue of *Telicom*. Whitaker disagreed with the South Africa articles — not because they had defended South Africa from the Western media but because even they were too hard on that country's asshole, apartheid. "I feel that apartheid is not wrong," wrote Whitaker, claiming that integration of races leads to genetic mediocrity. He said genetic "advance" was based on two races fighting it out "and the more fit eliminating the less fit."

"If the two groups had integrated upon coming back together, they would have produced an average strain. The process of evolution would have suffered a lost opportunity to move forward," Whitaker wrote. Since October, no ISPE member has written to criticize any of the South Africa articles.

Galton would have grinned in his grave.



Environment and culture Listening to the earth

The sharp contrast between different ways of framing the social issues related to the current environmental crisis was examined in the most recent set of Beatty Memorial Lectures at McGill. "The Listening Earth" series set out to explore "the link between culture and the environment." While there was little direct reference to this theme, an eclectic group of speakers prodded the question from various perspectives, pointing to the difficulties in adaptation experienced in both the scientific community and the social system as a whole.

by Laura O'Connor

Norman Myers

Norman Myers, an environment/development consultant and publisher of *Gaia: An Atlas of Planet Management*, launched the series Monday evening with a very disappointing presentation — one which provided a striking illustration of what is wrong with most mainstream discussion of environmental issues. Interestingly enough, these difficulties stemmed from a very poor grasp of social theory, not a lack of scientific knowledge.

Myers' essential point was that environmental protection is in the long run beneficial and cost-effective. We can clean up the planet, he argued, and still "put money in the bank." He even worked out the basic investment required — \$75 billion per year.

In a trivial sense he is right. Nobody would argue that complete environmental collapse — including mass flooding, desertification, toxification and starvation — would be profitable. Similarly, full-scale nuclear war would not be profitable. This much is obvious. What Myers failed to explain is why nobody has done anything about the situation, even though its desperate nature has been well documented for many years.

He spent much of his lecture pointing out the severe irrationalities of the global system of resource allocation — the amount Americans spend every year on dieting products could fund effective birth control programs and prevent mass starvation in the future, or the food relief sent to Ethiopia was more costly than an anti-soil erosion program, which could have averted the famine.

Myers' suggestion is that we simply rationalize our use of resources, and divert some military

spending to clean-up and preventative operations. This can be accomplished, he said, by getting our "political leaders to recognize what is at stake." This reorientation need not even spring from altruistic motives, but can be justified by our own self-interest.

The view suffers from confusion on two levels. First of all, the vast bulk of resources in any Western society is not under the control of any organization that is representative of, or even sensitive to, the collective interest. If this were not so, the environment would not have been so seriously disrupted in the first place. By blurring the distinction between collective interest and self-interest, Myers obscures the very fundamental antagonism between the economic and social systems in our society.

Secondly, he assumes that our good intentions can unproblematically be transformed into positive results through the political allocation of resources. He does not consider the possibility that an attempted solution could be frustrated because it conflicts with the very economic system which produced the problem in the first place. Thus, he argues that the destruction of the Brazilian rain forests can be stopped with a mere \$2 billion — completely ignoring the issue of permanent underdevelopment which led to the destruction.

Francis Bretherton

The second speaker in the series, Francis Bretherton, a researcher investigating the interaction between oceans and the atmosphere, pointed to some of the organizational difficulties presented by the environment. Bretherton argued that a feasible scheme must be developed for managing the global environment, but that unfortunately

"there are no mechanisms for making decisions on this scale."

While civilization has progressed through successive developments in managerial technology, starting with animal husbandry and agriculture, global management presents a new set of problems. Foremost, said Bretherton, is that "we don't really know how the system, the global environment, functions."

In part, this is because the reductionist paradigm in science hinders observation and theory-formation at the macro level. This means we have trouble piecing together the big picture. "We are a society of specialists," he said. "For issues like the global environmental system there are no experts, only partially knowledgeable individuals."

"This will be very far from business as usual for scientists. We have to pull together what's going on in the atmosphere, the ocean, and the land — this must all be pulled together into one big picture." Funding for scientific research often creates difficulties for such an enterprise — Bretherton pointed out that several key pieces of evidence which suggested the presence of the "greenhouse effect" were only collected because of the persistence of a few individuals.

But the challenge to science extends not just to diagnosing the problems and understanding the mechanisms — it also involves thinking through proposed solutions very carefully. He gave the example of those who suggest planting more trees to reduce the levels of atmospheric carbon dioxide, a

major greenhouse gas.

If an area twice the size of Australia were covered to forest, we could in fact remove most of the carbon dioxide which we have been producing through the consumption of fossil fuels. But Bretherton pointed out that once the trees matured, died and began to rot, the massive accumulation of carbon would rapidly return to the atmosphere. The only way to effectively dispose of it would be to bury the trees under pressure — that is, to turn them back into coal.

According to Bretherton, there are no simple scientific solutions, but there are also no simple answers to the social conditions which lead to many of the problems. He said a program must be developed which is "realistic scientifically, realistic in terms of how communication works within societies, how their value systems function, and realistic in terms of what is economically and politically feasible."

Above all, we have to be realistic about how much we can accomplish. For instance, since the atmosphere is currently destabilized, even if we halted all further expansion of greenhouse gas-producing technology, it would not stop global warming. "If we stopped increasing consumption, the warming curve would simply continue up at the same rate instead of accelerating," he said.

Although Bretherton clearly sensed the enormous difficulties of modifying our social and economic systems to maintain the environment, he too came close to oversimplifying the problem. At the end of his lecture, he called for "a true collaboration of the nations of

the world, built around the language of science." While this is necessary, the language of science clearly is unable to deal with many of the major issues.

Suppose a moratorium is declared on the production of certain commodities which use harmful technology, for example. Suddenly the entire question of resource distribution, which the Western world has very conveniently left to anonymous market forces, will become subject to negotiation. In all fairness, we would then have to give many of our refrigerators and power-plants to the Chinese. The language of science is certainly not equipped to handle these transactions.

Daniel J. Boorstin

Daniel Boorstin, Librarian of Congress for 12 years, analyzed our basic social orientations in terms of three models of "human fulfillment" — discovery, invention and creation.

He argued that both discovery and invention — types of work that have conventionally dominated society — present their own set of problems. Discovery, because of its unexpected character, rests upon an error in judgement. In this way, it springs from an "illusion of knowledge," which represents a significant barrier to progress.

Invention creates similar difficulties, because the inventor believes s/he has perfected a technique. This, combined with "statistical determinism" creates the illusion of predictability — "the belief that we can extrapolate from what we know to what we don't know."

continued on page 6



Ian Pollock

Midwives struggle in Québec

Many Québec doctors continue to perpetuate the myth that pregnancy is an illness and have thwarted the efforts of the government to legalise midwifery in the province.

Only a minority of members of the Québec Corporation of Physicians support midwifery. Many fear that the introduction of midwives will increase the risks associated with giving birth since 'proper' medical care and technology will not be used.

by Tarek Razeq

But in *Understanding Human Behaviour in Health and Illness*, Dr's Hittleman, Simons and Peterson explain that "in countries such as Holland, France and England, trust in the natural process of pregnancy and delivery seems to result in a greater reliance on midwives and non-hospital births, and a decreased use of drugs, Caesarian sections, and episiotomies. Rather than proving harmful, such medical practices seem to correlate with more (problem-free) pregnancies, a higher rate of spontaneous births, and a lower rate of infant mortality."

Canada and South Africa are the only two industrialized member nations of the World Health Organization (WHO) that have not yet legalized and incorporated midwifery into their health care systems. In all, only 9 of the 210 members of WHO have not legalized midwifery.

Québec Midwives

In Canada health is under provincial jurisdiction. Governmental interest in establishing a midwifery system in Québec has existed for several years. It would like to follow the example of other nations where the service met with success and public satisfaction as well as a dramatic reduction in health care costs.

Despite political bickering between the Québec Corporation of Physicians and the provincial government, a growing number of people are demanding a more natural, less interventionist approach to delivery care and want home birthing care to be made available.

In Québec two midwifery organizations exist, the Alliance of Practicing Midwives, with about 30 to 50 midwives and the Association of Midwives, with 70 members. Although it is illegal, it is estimated that between 500 and 2000 Québec women use the services of midwives annually. They are supported by a number of Québec physicians.

Genevieve Smith, a midwife at the Alliance of Practicing Midwives, said a midwife will follow a woman pre-natally and request the

woman be followed by a G.P. or obstetrician to ensure no complications arise. In the event of a complication a hospital birth is recommended. Under normal circumstances, the midwife comes to the woman's home and remains throughout the labour, an average of 12 hours, assists in the birth either in hospital or at home, and checks the baby. In the event of an unforeseen emergency the midwife is usually in contact with a supportive centre, such as the Herzl centre at Jewish General hospital. The midwife also makes several post-natal follow-up visits.

According to Smith, the goals of the midwifery organizations are to attain recognition as an autonomous profession with legal status for a midwifery school at universities. Incorporation into the health system would make the option of home birth more accessible and free under provincial health care.

Despite the cooperation between midwives and various medical centres, few centres overtly support midwifery. This is because cooperating physicians and midwives run the risk of prosecution. In the spring of 1989, Clifford Blais, a physician at the Pierre Boucher hospital on the South Shore, was suspended after allowing a midwife to assist in a delivery. Although he has since been reinstated, the risks of speaking out have quieted many.

Québec Health and Social Services Minister Marc-Yvan Côté is expected to reintroduce Bill 4 in the Assembly this month after he withdrew it last session. The Bill would set up pilot projects to certify and legalize small groups of midwives to work in hospitals and CLSC's in outlying regions only. It is not the first time such a bill has been drafted. A similar proposal, Bill 156, by former Health minister Thérèse Lavoie-Roux was defeated in 1988.

In 1988, the Corporation of Québec Physicians interpreted the actions of the Health minister as hostile to their interests although they allegedly act in the interests of the public. According to a February 22 *Montréal Mirror* article, Au-

gustin Roy, head of the the Corporation, suggested the legalisation of midwifery be accompanied by the legalisation of prostitution.

Present Health Minister Côté has not received a warmer reception from the Corporation concerning Bill 4. The Corporation said although it would not break any new law, it would instruct physicians not to collaborate with the midwifery pilot projects. General Practitioners were instructed not to follow pregnant women who intend to have home births.

The Corporation's reasons for opposing midwifery are not clear, given the positive impact of midwifery on healthcare. They will lose the monopoly on health care. The midwifery groups want the power to organize which they could only obtain from government legislation.

Not all the medical community supports the Corporation's position.

Dr. Klein, director of family medicine at Herzl described why he thought doctors wear masks during delivery, "We're playing surgeons during delivery. It also carries with it a belief or message that birth is sterile. Birth is not sterile and it cannot be made sterile... The birth canal is filled with people's normal bacteria that are living there all the time and they are not going to change because you happen to be giving birth. But when you dress up like a surgeon, would

you believe you might even begin acting like a surgeon, and that's part of the problem."

According to Dr. Klein, his episiotomy rate is 9 per cent compared with that of the Jewish General overall where it is 73 per cent. In Québec, the C-section rate is the highest in Canada and has been rising over the last decade.

Smith said that among home-births assisted by midwives, episiotomies are extremely rare.

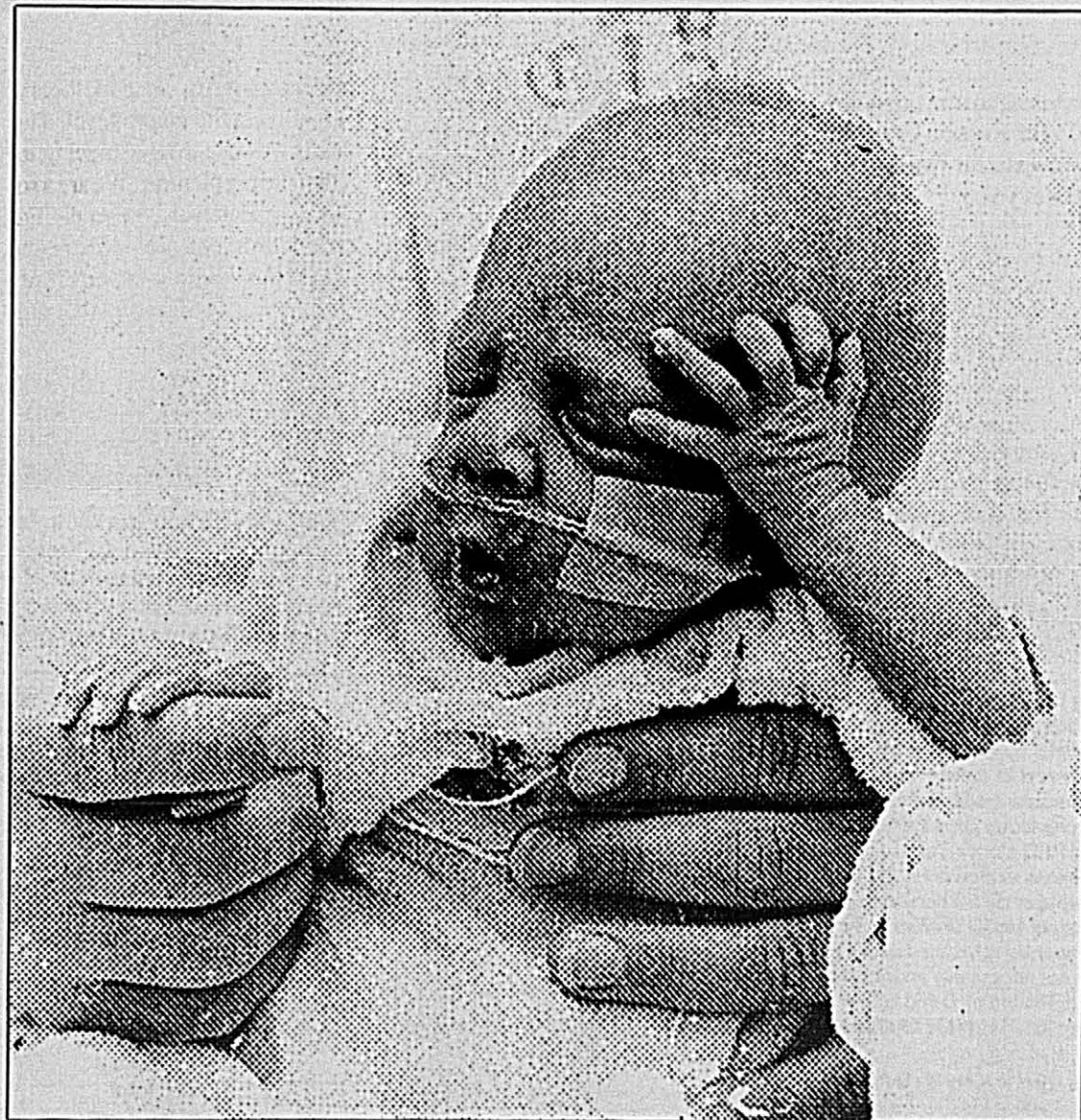
Midwifery as an option

The quality and type of services a woman receives in Montréal in delivery care varies dramatically between hospitals and doctors. It depends entirely on her physician and the hospital to which she is admitted. Some women, who can afford the \$500 to \$700 midwife fee and who have a cooperative doctor, have the option of having a home birth. Unfortunately, not many people know this option exists nor the benefits of having a normal pregnancy in comfortable surroundings. Many know only of hospitals and are taught that they all provide similar care. This is not the case.

First year medical students are able to witness several deliveries in different institutions. Many are shocked by the variety of care offered. Some hospitals whisk the expectant mother into a pseudo-operating room, restrain her in stirrups, routinely perform episio-

mies, use full sterile gear (mask, gloves, foot and head protectors) and remove the baby on a tray before the mother has had a chance to see the newborn, for 'hygienic' reasons; in others the family is allowed to be present, the health staff will be dressed informally, the birthing room is a motel-like room with a special bed that adjusts position to assist in parturition and there is constant discussion between the expectant mother and the physician. Often people are not aware of these discrepancies and are consequently not able to make appropriate choices to meet their desires. There is no standard procedure.

Several midwifery projects in the United States permit only nurses to enroll. This is not the case of most other midwifery programs, for example in Western Europe, where they are all direct entry schools (anyone can apply). This difference is a representation of the philosophy which regards pregnancy as an illness in North American society. The nursing profession involves helping sick people, whereas midwives help pregnant women. Midwifery is not an extension of nursing care. The goal, according to Smith, is to decrease the amount of unnecessary medical interventions in otherwise normal pregnancies by incorporating midwifery into the health care system, and distinguishing it from the medical system.



Earth...

continued from page 4

This type of error, according to Boorstin, is best exemplified in predictions of what a "next generation" of computers will look like. "This assumption, that we have control over the process of invention, is a great mistake. The most significant dimension of invention in modern times is its unexpected character."

According to Boorstin, only creation avoids this tendency to overestimate our abilities. It also brings out "human possibilities not found in invention or discovery."

"The temper of our society has been toward invention," he said. "I would like to suggest the special important in our society of the

spread of creation."

This will involve a significant rupture with many traditional ways of thinking. In particular, it defies traditional economic thinking. "The most important things in the world are not cost-effective — children are a good example of this," he said.

While Boorstin admitted that his presentation was somewhat tangential to the question of environmental protection, it was significant because he grasped the type of rethinking we must consider given the current crisis. Although it is difficult to see how his affirmative program of "creation" could have any practical application, his critical view of our "arrogant" presumption of knowledge is well founded.

letter

Praise for Noam

To the Daily:

Thank you for sharing the insightful interview, Noam Chomsky gave to the *Daily* (March 5).

It is a testimony to Chomsky's greatness and vision to have given an opportunity to student paper to share his wisdom and his humanity. Can you imagine Henry Kissinger ever doing it?

A few weeks ago McGill was abuzz with the talk of the world famous human rights (read Jewish rights) activist, Schransky. What these two men personify needs serious pondering. The hypocritical Nathan Schransky belittled the continuing suffering of the Palestinian people. Without a tinge of shame, Schransky said there is no comparison between the sufferings of soviet jews and the Palestinians living under (the most humane occupation in history). Yet one has to ask such dubious and insensitive defender of human rights how many homes of Russian jews have been blown up by the Red army? Or how many soviet jews have been deported? I do not deny the atrocities the jews of Soviet Union have endured over the ages. What I question is why person like Schransky having suffered personal pain can be so cruel and insensitive.

I salute freedom fighters like Nelson Mandela or clergymen like Archbishop Desmond Tutu (sic) for being forthright in their condemnation of racism anywhere and inflicted by anyone. One has to be totally blind to defend Israeli barbarism. The world is getting tired of the crying wolf of anti-semitism at legitimate exposure of Israeli racist

policies.

McGill's own resident scholar, Ruth Wisse has been preaching extremist Likudnik policies through the *Gazette* columns. She has endeared herself to all the arch reactionaries and tyrants of the world.

Such academics confirm what Professor Chomsky has been telling us that the establishment has network of thought-control in our liberal democracies. How many column inches are accorded to persons who expose these hypocracies. We all are being moulded to think the way our masters (Kissinger, Reagan, Nixon et al.) want us to. It is this systematic brainwashing that has made the Palestinians as terrorists while contras are called freedom fighters. While Israel's Shamir demands bigger Israel for bigger jewish immigration and does everything to kill his own peace plan, our Joe Clark asks Arafat to amend the defunct Palestinian charter. Such crass stupidity can only be explained by the steamroller tactics of the zionist lobbies in the so called liberal societies as Canada and the USA.

How true Chomsky's observation that the media and the political leadership marginalises anyone who exposes these contradictions in the claims and actual policies of our leadership.

One need not despair at these logjams to just peace in the middle east. Who could have imagined the collapse of the soviet empire or the beginning of the end of apartheid. Likewise oppressive bankrupt Zionism will see its day in the court of world opinion.

Ibne Ali
Continuing Education

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news

Anti-racism groups march for cause

by Andrea Worrell

Protestors commemorating International Anti-Racism Day took to the streets Wednesday to remember the 30th anniversary of South Africa's Sharpeville massacre, and to celebrate Namibia's recently gained independence.

The first stop for the 70 demonstrators was the junction of Milton and Clark streets. The marchers spray painted "Love, peace and unity" over racist graffiti on the side of the Elysée theatre. A young black man, Don Edwards, was arrested two months ago for attempting the same thing.

Nita Scheffit, an organizer from STAND, said the anti-graffiti act symbolized their refusal to tolerate any form of racism.

The march, organized by Montréal anti-apartheid and anti-racism groups, stopped at Complex Guy-Favreau where African National

Congress (ANC) member Dan O'Meara spoke. He stressed that resistance to the apartheid regime must continue. Despite Namibia's hard-won independence, their economic status is still closely tied to South Africa, he said.

Anne-Marie Clarke, a founding member of AKAX, said, "We don't have to look to South Africa to find racism." Shouting the names of victims of racist police brutality in Canada like Anthony Griffin, Sophia Cook and Michael Wade Lawson, marchers jeered at Montréal's "finest" hovering nearby.

Tension between the crowd and police heated up when demonstrators blocked traffic at McGill College and Ste. Catherine. One protester, Audrea Golding, expressed disappointment with the lack of resistance against the crowd-controlling tactics used by the "obviously racist cops." The Black Baron,

from Ligue Anti-fascist Mondiale (LAM), said "There were four RCMP cars and just as many cops. They were pushing us off the sidewalk."

Some protestors wondered if the march was a demonstration or a parade. The majority of people were "bleeding heart liberals who weren't taking a strong enough stand," said Golding. The crowd was also overwhelmingly anglophone, according to the Black Baron.

Yet according to Scheffit, the march went well overall.

Montréal ANC Solidarity President Chengiah Ragaven, Equality party member Richard Lord, LAM, Québec Black student group AKAX and McGill Black Students Network also spoke during the march, organized by McGill South African Committee, ANC Solidarity, STAND and other anti-apartheid groups.



Hier, près de 400 étudiant(e)s de l'Association des étudiantes et étudiants du Québec ont occupé les bureaux du Conseil du Trésor, rue Sherbrooke, juste en face de McGill. Ils ont été expulsés par l'escouade anti-émeute de la Police de Montréal. Aucune arrestation n'a été faite. Bien que l'événement ait eu lieu devant McGill, très peu d'étudiant(e)s d'ici ont traversé la rue pour se joindre aux manifestants qui appuyaient les occupants.

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Ads may be placed through the Daily business office, room B-17, Union Building, 9th floor.

15h00. Deadline is 14h00

two weekdays prior to date of publication.

McGill students: \$3.50 per day; \$2.50 for 3 consecutive days, \$2.25 for 4 or more consecutive days. McGill Faculty and Staff: \$4.50 per day. All others: \$5.00 per day. There is a 25 word limit. There will be a charge of 25¢ for each word over the limit. Boxed ads are available at \$4.00 per ad per day - no discounts on boxing. EXACT CHANGE ONLY PLEASE.

The Daily assumes no financial responsibility for errors, or damage due to errors. Ad will re-appear free of charge upon request if information is incorrect due to our error. The Daily reserves the right not to print any classified ad.

341 - APTS., ROOMS, HOUSING

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Studio Sublet + option: very clean; quiet, hardwood floors. Available May 1st, \$377/month; Prince Arthur + Lome. Maria 284-6548: Before 9 a.m.; after 7 p.m.

3 1/2 sublet, May-Aug (option to renew). Furnished, hard-wood floors, balcony, all inclusive. Block past Steinbergs on Prince Arthur. Perfect for two! \$480. 284-5007.

2 1/2 sublet, renewable, corner Milton and University. Swimming Pool, Sauna, heating and Hot Water included. Available 1st April or before. Only \$428/month. 842-5099 anytime.

Two People needed to take 6 1/2 for summer. Balcony, roof, furnished, airy, very sunny. Near St. Laurent & Mount Royal, \$210. Zeb, 284-5160.

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Female student/professional roommate wanted. Water, heating included. Hardwood floors & moulding, security building. By Villa Maria Metro. \$232 per month. Gloria: 483-3982.

Sublet - large, sunny 1 1/2, Stanley + Dr. Penfield. May 1st - July 31st. balcony, heat, hot water included. Furnished \$400 negotiable. Call 284-5662.

4 1/2 downtown on Bishop; 2 separate bedrooms; bright, clean; fridge/stove; washer/dryer; close to Guy metro, from May 1, 1990 with option to renew: 982-3744.

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4 1/2 sublet May - Sept. 1. Bright, clean, safe, fully furnished. 2 min. from campus on corner Hutchison and Milton. \$500/month + utilities. Call 281-8417.

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456 Pine Ave. 4 1/2 to share for May, June and July - hardwood floors, high ceilings, clean, bright, spacious, \$300/month + utilities. Call 844-8453 - please leave message.

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4 1/2 sublet: May - September, 456 Pine Ave., across gym, near shopping, spacious, laundry, very clean. Under \$300/month. Each. Kim 284-5749 (leave message) Ronde 284-6446.

3 rooms, 1 available immediately. Large, bright 6 1/2, two minutes from Guy Metro. Sublet until August 1st, option to renew. \$300/month, 931-7903.

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3 1/2 available after 1st of July, electric heating, rate will be discussed. Please call after 3 p.m. Ask for Bravio. 735-2863 or 341-1701.

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Do you want a funky pad? Sublet our 5 1/2 on the plateau. May-Sept with option to renew. \$650. Furnishings optional. Call 284-6858.

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352 - HELP WANTED

Papertree Planters: Planters wanted for May 1st. Info session Monday March 26th, 3483 Stanley St. 4:30 - 6:30. Or Call Dave 933-7968, Bill 489-1432.

Swim Director, Swim Instructors, & assistant swim director for children's camp north of Montreal. End June-mid August. Call 481-1875.

Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research is looking for a responsible person as a Glassware/Media Technician on a permanent/part-time basis 5 days a week with flexible hours. Salary: \$9.00-\$11.00/hour according to experience. The duties consist of autoclave sterilization, glassware, pipettes and various other duties. For interview call 842-1603 and ask for Francine Woolcott.

Ludwig Institute for Cancer Research is looking for an Office Clerk on a temporary basis (from May 14 - June 15) 5 days a week from Monday to Friday 9:00 - 17:00. Salary: \$8.00-\$10.00/hour according to experience. The duties consist of receptionist, typing (with knowledge of Macintosh computer and the Microsoft Word program) and various other tasks. For interview call 842-1603 and ask for Francine Woolcott.

Summer job in Eastern townships as mother's helper. Ideally someone interested in child development, to begin immediately working weekends and staying overnight in the country on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. After school year, to work weekends and part of week as full-time mother's helper with responsibility for 2-year old twins and a variety of kitchen and household tasks. Must be a non-smoker. Excellent after-tax pay and room and board provided in magnificent country setting. Dial 1-538-0990.

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374 - PERSONALS

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"Blind yourself with science, stick your head in acid."



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Are your Neural synapses disintegrating? Take a study break and give us a call! McGill Nightline - 398-6246, 6pm to 3am nightly. For information or conversation. Confidential, anonymous and cool.

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Gays and Lesbians of McGill offers an information and counselling talkline. Call us with questions, problems, or just to talk. Phone 398-6822 or drop by Union 417, M-F, 7 - 10 p.m.

Lesbian/Gay studies group meets Thursdays, discussion group meets Fridays, both at Yellow Door (3625 Aylmer) 17h00. Info 597-0363 (Bail).

Help End Animal Suffering. All Welcome. META 276-0914.

Are you an Anatomy Student? Let's make every \$ count! Vote for Fany Fallbaum as your Treasurer (Vote on Wed. or Fri.).

McGill Travel Club. members interested in helping out with Travel Week are to call Luc at 762-0332.

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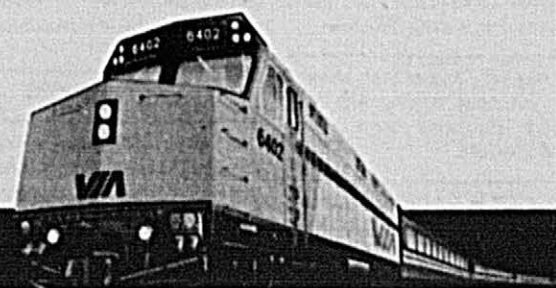
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